

Atty. Docket No. SP-1550.2 US

REMARKS

Claims 3-10, 12-15, and 17-22 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 6-9, 16 and 20-22 were rejected. Claims 10 and 12-14 are allowed. Claims 3-5 and 17-19 are objected to.

Claims 1, 2 and 16 have been canceled without prejudice to facilitate allowance of the present application. Applicant reserves the right to reintroduce these claims in a continuation application and/or later stage of prosecution.

Claim 3 has been amended to be independent of a rejected base claim and includes subject matter of claim 1 as originally filed. Claim 4 has been amended to depend from claim 3.

Claims 6 and 7 have been amended to depend from claim 3, which is now allowable.

Claim 15 has been amended to depend from claim 10.

Claim 17 has been amended to be independent of a rejected base claim. Claim 18 has been amended to depend from claim 17 and for proper antecedent basis.

Claims 20-22 have been amended to depend from claim 17.

As a result, the objected claims no longer depend from rejected base claims. Additionally, pending rejected claims now depend from allowable claims. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

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CONCLUSION

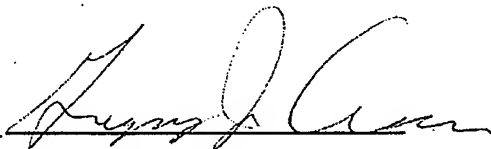
For at least the above reasons, pending claims currently under consideration are believed to be in condition for allowance and notice thereof is requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Should any fees be due as a result of the filing of this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account Number 05-1325.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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